

5 A method of conferencing involves forming a main  
conference between a plurality of users, providing a  
user with an option to request a subconference with a  
subset of other users, forming a subconference between  
said user and the subset of other users, and at least  
10 partially removing those users in the subconference  
from the main conference during the subsistence of the  
subconference. The conference is preferably a  
multimedia conference and the subconference can be  
conducted in an arbitrary mix of one or more of the  
15 media used in the main conference. Subconference  
participants have the option of monitoring proceedings  
in the main conference by receiving some of the main  
conference media signals while the subconference is in  
progress. The invention also provides conference  
20 servers, terminals and software for use in the  
subconferencing method.